

Baird's house in Washington, D. C., on the night of July 19, 1868.

**Dictyophorus reticulatus** Thunb. A specimen kept in captivity was excessively deliberate in its movements; to clean its antennae it treads upon one at a time and draws it from under its feet; it was very tame and would leap but a few inches at a time. Two specimens from Lookout Mt., Tenn., were sent me by Mr. B. P. Mann, both females, and when received (by mail) one had eaten the entire abdomen of the other excepting the sternal portions and the ovipositor; yet the injured specimen did not seem to mind it greatly!

**Melanoplus femur-rubrum** (De Geer). At Sudbury, Vt., specimens taken in low meadows differed from those captured in hollows of dry upland hilly pastures in being darker colored and having more contrasted coloration. Three quarters of an hour after sunset on a cloudy evening in August a specimen was unable to see my hand, as

it several times did not move until touched; then, however, it jumped to another blade of grass. The experiment was tried several times with the same individual and with the same result.

**Melanoplus collinus** Scudd. This species was found abundantly at Sudbury, Vt., where, on Aug. 15, no eggs could be found in the ovaries of the females examined; the ovaries were spread as a mere film on the intestines and no eggs could be detected with a strong pocket lens.

**Melanoplus femoratus** (Burm.). The ovaries in this species occupy the dorsum of the body from the metathorax to the fifth abdominal segment inclusive; at the latter point the oviducts turn ventrad, clasping the alimentary canal, meeting beneath and turning backward together to the ovipositor; the tracheae pass between the ovaries and the intestine and branch upon the former.

#### A RARE TRACT.

THERE has lately been presented to the library of the American Entomological Society by Mr. Wm. J. Fox, a small pamphlet ( $3\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2}$ ) from the library of the late T. R. Peale, which bears the title: "Catalogue of the Lepidoptera of New Orleans and its vicinity, prepared by L. von Reizenstein. Printed for R. C. Kerr, librarian of the New Orleans Academy of Sciences, New Orleans 1863." There are some items of interest in the catalogue to which attention may be called. The following species are credited to the district mentioned.

"*Papilio protesilaus* DRU. Greenville, rare." This is given by Kirby as a synonym of *Sinon* Fabr.

"*Goniopteryx eclipsis*" = *Gonepteryx macrula* Fabr.

"*Xanthidia (Terias) sylvatica* Mss. rare, Western Lake Shore."

"*Heliconia diaphona*" = *Ithomia diaphanus* Dru. Dr. Scudder says of this species (Syn. List; Buff. Bull. 2, 246, 1875): "I cannot find any authority for the occurrence of this butterfly within our limits, excepting Edwards, Synopsis, and Mr. Edwards does not recollect upon what grounds he placed it there."

"*Argynnis briareva* Godt rare." "*Leminitis ? cadmus* Cram. ? *phereicides* Cram." These last two are synonyms of *Aganisthos acheronta* Fabr.

"*Apatura myops* Mss. on elm trees."

"*Calisto zangis* Fabr."

"*Thecla io* Mss. City Park, rare. On *Cannomilla*."

"*Thecla ixion*" Fabr.

Lists of moths are also given under "VESPERIDAE, PHALAENIDAE and TINEEADAE." A list of nondescripts is given which includes thirteen butterflies and sixty-one moths. There have been very few collectors in the locality and I am quite prepared to believe the above mentioned species were found. Species new to our fauna are constantly being recorded from Florida and Texas which have been described from further south. Mrs. Slosson has recently caught a number of species in Southern Florida hitherto only known from the Antilles. *Henry Skinner*.

#### NOTES ON EPHYRA PENDULINARIA.

THE following notes were made nearly forty years ago for a study of the insects of sweet-fern (*Comptonia*) which I may possibly still be able to complete.

The caterpillar was first observed Aug. 22, 1859, at South Windsor, Conn., and the following description taken:

Color, green; head rust-red with yellowish streaks, and a few scattering hairs; frontal triangle whitish; head appendages except tip of mandibles which are black, white; eyes partly black and partly rust-red. Terminal segment and prolegs roseate spotted with faint green, with a green stripe down hind-most prolegs; body with ten or twelve rows of dots, or continually interrupted lines of a fainter green above, about as many beneath, taking up half the space; stigmatal line very slightly and irregularly pinched. Three rows of short, very fine black hairs on each segment transversely, the center row having but half as many as either of the others, which have but ten hairs in a row, equally above and below; the central row seems to be irregular, and wanting on some segments; legs whitish with a few hairs on them. Length  $+\frac{3}{4}$  in; breadth  $-\frac{1}{10}$  in.

The thoracic segments and basal joints of legs so contractile that the caterpillar can

put all three pairs together on the jaws, with scarcely a bend in the body, and when he does so these segments are so swollen as to give a clubbed look to the caterpillar. When moving, it swings its body sideways (standing on its prolegs) like a pendulum for a while, and then with great tremulousness and frequently touching the surface, goes on. In eating, it cuts deep holes in the leaf, eating at the edge, eating backwards very voraciously for about one-eighth of an inch; then beginning again where it started it goes over the bitten space eating deeper and deeper till the whole is sometimes deeper than wide; it is fond of placing its prolegs on the end of a branch and looking out upon the outer world. It will spin a thread; it often will stand upon the midrib with its prolegs and curving its body, place its legs a little way above the surface, and here remain a long while, looking like a kangaroo ready to leap.

It went to the under side of an oak leaf in its tumbler on Aug. 26, and began spinning, attaching itself by a fine silk circle to the terminal prolegs, and fastened a thread around one of its segments after the manner of butterflies; changed the same day to a chrysalis, throwing the larval skin entirely away.

Chrysalis light green, a black stripe broken twice toward the end on each side, along the hinder margin of the wing. Two protuberances, one at the base of each wing, white, brownish at base; tail-piece almost colorless, tip red. Abdominal segments of a lighter color than the rest, with dots of a lighter tint; anterior half of each abdominal segment punctate, posterior half minutely striate; a thread crosses the body upon which it rests suspended; the thread splits into two at the ends, being fastened at four points: the back is slightly roofed on thoracic segments; the tail-piece is immersed in a silken mass, by which the body is retained in position; head end of the body flat and as if truncate; two projections like warts at base of each wing; the head is square, and the breast flattened; the sides of the body half way down